Allied to this family, and indeed united with it by Tullberg,
but kept separate by Thomas, is the

Fam, 6. Heteromyidae.—The members of this family are also American, but are not confined to the northern-central regions of that continent, for the genus *Heteromys* extends into South America,

The genus *Dipodomys,* with twelve species, is of a Jerboa-like form, as the following measurements of an example of *D. merriami* will show. The length of the head and body was 85 mm.; of the tail 127 mm.; the hind-foot is 32 mm. It has but four toes. The hind-limb is longer than the front-limbs.

In *Perodipus* the same form is exhibited. There are, however, five toes, and the sole of the foot is hairy. The axis vertebra and the two following vertebrae are fused together.

Perognathus is a third genus. It has the same general slender form, but the tail is not so long, being but little longer than the body. The hind-limbs, too, are shorter. The teats of this and of *Perodipus* are as in *Geomys.* The two remaining genera of the family are *Heteromys* and *Microdipodops,*

Fam» 7. Dipodidae.—This family consists of small, plain-living, and leaping or arboreal creatures, commonly known as

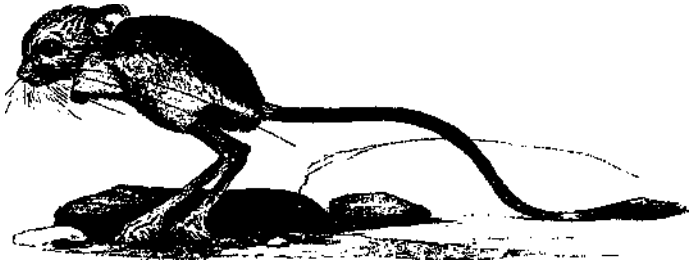

FIG. 238.—Jerboa. *Dipus hirtvpes.* x J. Eastern Europe.

Jerboas. The main anatomical characters of the family are the following :-r-There is a large infra-orbital foramen. The molars are always reduced, the premolar being either absent in the lower jaw alone or in both jaws. This family presents an obvious likeness to *Dipodomys* (hence the name of the latter) and to some other members of the American familv" Heteromvidae